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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Manfred DOMBEK) Group Art Unit: 1731
Appln. No. : 10/820,705) Examiner: Unknown
Filed : April 9, 2004) Confirmation No.: 8736
For : FILTER TIPPING MACHINE WITH DOUBLE TIPPING
PAPER FEED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the following documents for the Examiner's consideration.

- (1) German Patent Application No. 39 18 137 issued October 14, 1999 (published December 14, 1989), which is discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0005];
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,054,346 issued October 8, 1991 to HEITMANN, which is a family member of item (1) and discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0005];
- (3) German Patent Application No. 196 26 679 published September 1, 1997, which is discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0006]; and

(4) U.S. Patent No. 5,715,838 issued February 10, 1998 to DYETT, which is a U.S. patent family member of item (3) and discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0006].

The following documents were cited in a Search Report conducted in European Patent Application No. 03 01 0268 dated September 18, 2003, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the European Examiner cited:

(5) European Patent Application No. 1 108 369 published June 20, 2001 as a "D" category document (i.e., a document discussed in the application) and as an "A" category document (i.e., technological background). In particular, the European Examiner noted this document, which is discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0007], as relevant to claims 1 and 7 of the European application;

(6) German Patent Application No. 38 05 753 published September 15, 1988 as an "A" category document. The European Examiner noted the abstract and drawings as pertinent to claim 1 of the European application. Moreover, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 4,841,993 issued June 27, 1989 to HINZ et al., which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited German application; and

(7) German Patent Application No. 1 258 773 published January 11, 1968 as an "A" category document with regard to claims 3 and 10 of the

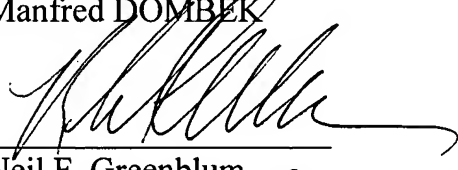

European application. The Examiner noted the entire document as being particularly relevant.

Each of the above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Moreover, copies of the European Search Report and of the cited non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. Moreover, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Manfred DOMBEK


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U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket No.
P24923

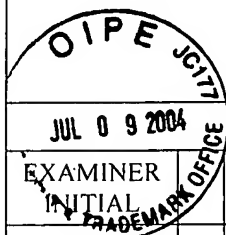
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Manfred DOMBEK

Filing Date
April 9, 2004

Group
1731



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.